

*Adventures
in Storyland
Series*



**ADVENTURES
IN CHILD LAND**

TAYLOR





ADVENTURES IN STORYLAND SERIES

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ADVENTURES IN ANIMAL LAND

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Adventures in Storyland Readers

ADVENTURES IN CHILD LAND

by

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Author of "Two Indian Children of Long Ago"



Illustrated by
CLARA ATWOOD FITTS

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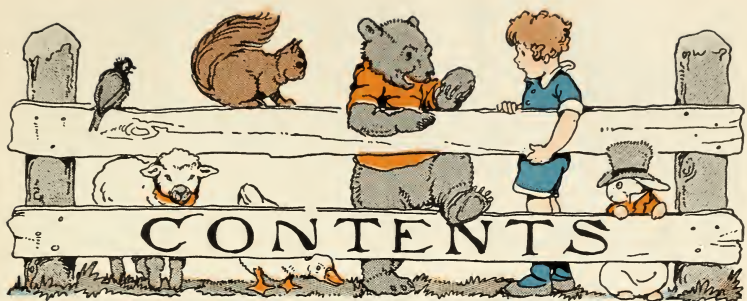
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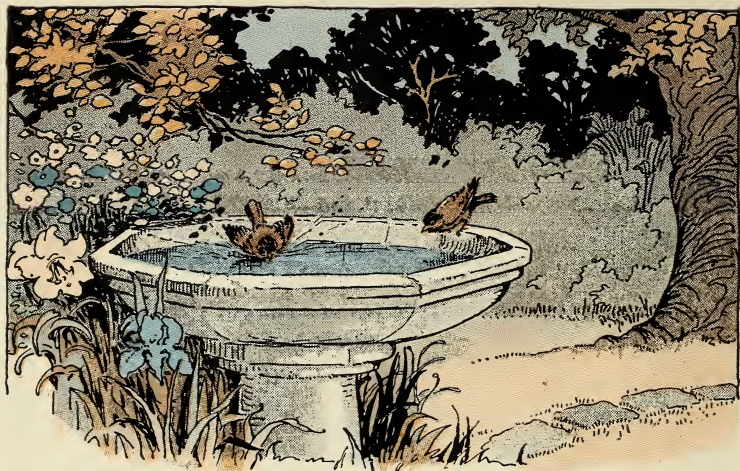


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Safety and Health
Animal Friends
Rhymes
Fairy Tales
New Stories
Old Stories Retold



Safety and Health

Who likes to be clean?

“I,” said the bird.

“I like to be clean.”

And he jumped into the water.

Splash! Splash! Splash!

Oh, how the water flew!



Who likes to be clean?

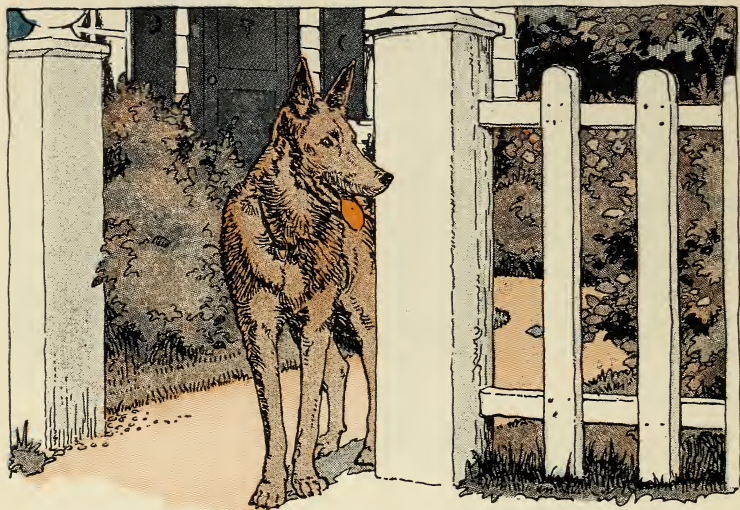
“I,” said the cat,
“I like to be clean.”

Then she washed her coat.

She washed her paws.

She washed her tail.

And she washed her face
with her paws.



Who likes to be safe?

“I,” said the big dog.

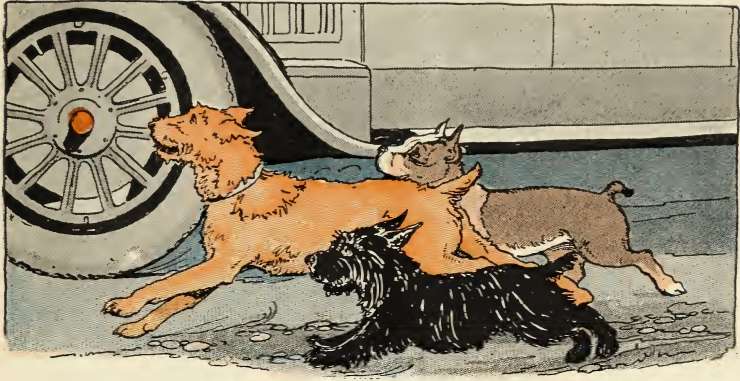
“I like to be safe.

I do not run after cars.

I watch them go by.

But I stay at my home.

And I do not run in the road.”



“It is fun to run after cars,”
said the little dogs.

“We watch for the cars.

Then we run and we bark.

We are not afraid of the cars.”

So they ran after the cars.

Three dogs ran into the road.

A boy called, “Come back, dogs!

It is not safe to run after cars.”



Who likes to be safe?

“I,” said the squirrel.

“I like to be safe.

I run and play in the trees.

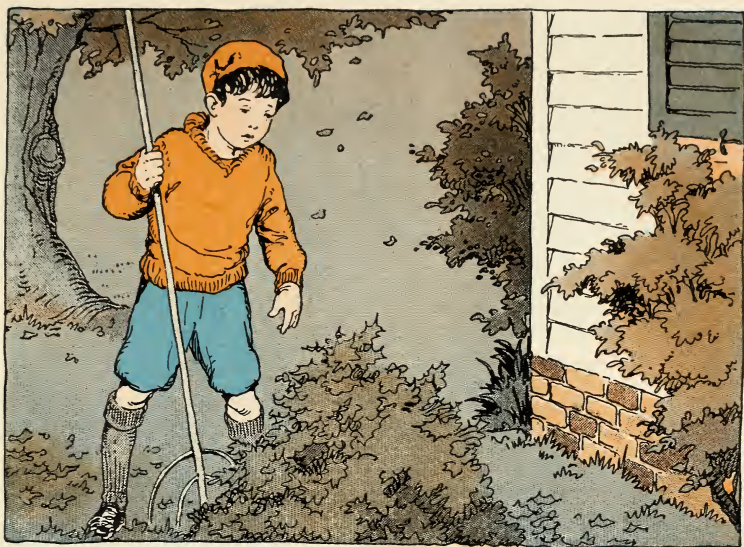
It is fun to play

in the trees.

Trees are safe for squirrels.

But I keep away from wires.

Electric wires are not safe.”



Oh, look! Look at my leaves!
I want to burn them.
But Mother says it is not safe
for me to make a fire.
Father will burn the leaves.
He will not let the fire
burn our home.



Little Robin

Little Robin lived in a tree.

One day a boy put some food
in a dish for his cat.

Little Robin saw the food.

He wanted to fly down and get it.

“Do not fly down to the dish,”
said his mother.

“It is not safe.

If you go, the cat will hear you.
She may catch you and eat you.”

Little Robin did not see the cat.

He did not hear the cat.

So he flew down to the dish.

Out jumped the cat!

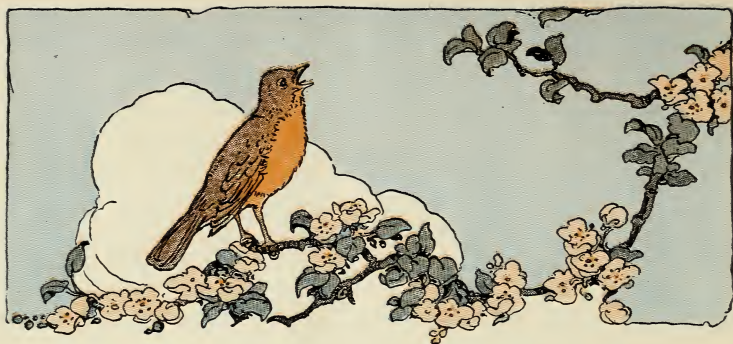
But little Robin saw her.

He was afraid of the cat.

He flew back home.

Now Little Robin minds his mother.

He knows cats like to catch birds.



Robin Red Breast

Robin Red Breast in the tree,
Sings a song to you and me,
Sings of all that he can see,
 Pretty Robin Red Breast.

Robin Red Breast's coat is brown.
Scarlet vest as soft as down.
Every Spring he comes to town,
 Pretty Robin Red Breast.

M. Z. J.



Long Tail

Long Tail was a little rat.

He lived under the floor.

One day Long Tail said,

“I want to go out to play.”

“You are safe in your home,”

said his mother.

“The cat can not catch you here.”

“I can run away from the cat,”

said Long Tail.

“I do not wish to stay with you

all the time.”

Long Tail would not stay at home.

He ran over the floor.

Soon he came back to his mother.

“Come with me,” he said.

“I have found some meat.

It is in a little wire house.

Come with me and eat it.”

“Do not go into that house,”

said his mother.

“If you go in you can not get out.”

“Mind your mother,”

said a big gray rat.

“It is not safe to go near

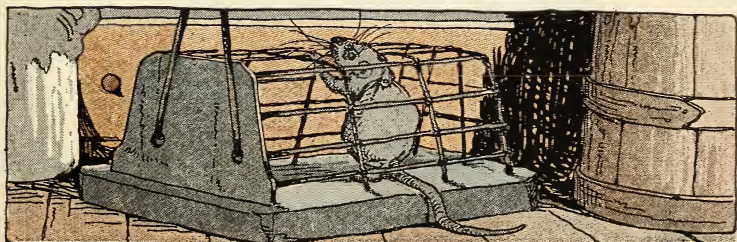
that little wire house.”

“I know that house is safe,”
said the little rat.

And he ran to the wire house.
He went in and ate the meat.
Then he could not get out.

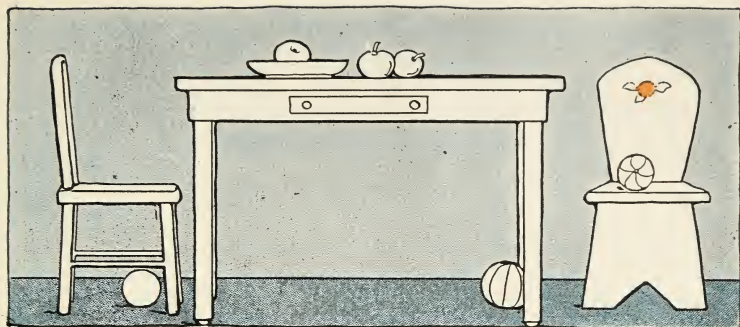
At night his mother said,
“Long Tail has not come home.
Where can he be?”

“The old cat can tell you,”
said the big gray rat.



Read and Do

1. Point to the window.
2. Point to the door.
3. Point to the table.
4. Point to the floor.
5. Put one hand on a book.
6. Put one hand under a book.
7. You may take two books.
8. Keep one and give one away.
9. Stand and look on the floor.
10. If you like a clean floor, sit.
11. Look at your hands.
12. If your hands are clean,
hold them up.
13. Play you are asleep.



Something to Draw

You may draw a table.

Draw two chairs by the table.

Draw a blue dish on the table.

Put a yellow apple in the dish.

Put two red apples by the dish.

Put a yellow ball on one chair.

Put a red ball under one chair.

Draw a blue ball on the floor
under the table.

Brown Bird and White Hen

Brown Bird lived in a tree.

White Hen lived in a house.

Brown Bird looked for food
all day long.

White Hen had more than she
wanted to eat.

One day the bird said,

“I wish I were a hen.

If I were a hen, I should have
plenty to eat.

I will visit that white hen.

Then she will ask me to stay.

And I shall have a good dinner.”



So the bird flew to the hen.

“White Hen,” he said,

“I have come to see you.”

“Will you stay to dinner?”

said the hen.

Brown Bird was glad to stay.

The hen had plenty of food.

And the bird had a fine dinner.

Brown Bird looked for food
all the next day.

But he found very little to eat.

“The hen has plenty,” said the bird.

“I will go and see her again.

She will ask me to supper.”

Just then a boy came

with more food for the hen.

“That hen is very fat,” he said.

“She will make a good dinner.”

Brown Bird flew away

as fast as he could go.

And he said, as he flew,

“I am glad I am not a hen.”



The Dog and the Crows

A dog had a piece of meat.

He went under a tree with it.

Then he lay down to eat

his dinner.

Three crows sat on a tree.

They said, "Caw, caw, caw.

Look at that meat.

What a fine, large piece!"



The first crow said,
“I wish I had that meat.”

The second crow said,
“I want that piece of meat.”

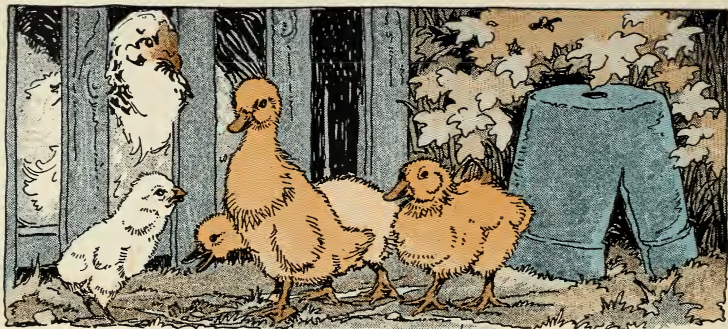
The third crow said,
“I must have that piece of meat.
I will get it for my dinner.”
So she flew down from the tree.
She walked back of the dog.
And she bit his tail.

Up jumped the dog.
He dropped his meat.
“Who bit my tail?” he said.
He turned around to see.
The crow took his meat
and ran away.

The dog ran after the crow.
But she flew up into a tree.

Then all the crows said,
“Caw, caw, caw!”

There were three crows
Sat on a tree,
And they were as black
As crows could be.



Three Little Ducks

Three little ducks lived
with the hens.

Their mother was a hen.

They ran with the chicks.

There was a river not far away.

The little ducks wanted to go
to the water.

They wanted to swim in the river.

One morning the little ducks said,

“We are going to the river.”

“No, no,” said their mother.

“My children must never go
near the water.”

“Do not go,” said a rooster.

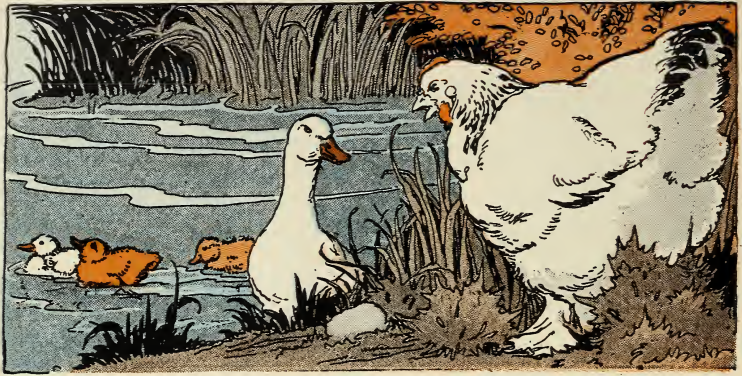
“If you jump into the water,
you can never get out.”

“Do not go,” said a turkey.

“It is not safe to go
near the water.”

But the ducks ran to the river.

And they jumped into the water
for a swim.



The mother hen ran after
her little ducks.

“Cluck! Cluck!” she said.

“My children are in the water.
Oh, what shall I do?”

A big gray duck said, “Quack.
Your children are ducks.
Ducks can live in the water.”



Child and Owl

Why does the old hen cluck,
Wise Owl?

Why does the old hen cluck?

She clucks because she can not swim.

Her child is in the water

And she can't go after him.

She does not know her child's a duck.

And so she cries,

“Cluck, cluck! Cluck, cluck!”



The Cat Waits

One day a cat saw a bird
fly to its nest.

She ran up the tree and looked
into the nest.

She saw eggs, but no birds.

“I will wait,” said the cat.

“Soon I shall find little birds.
I like birds better than eggs.”

The next day the cat climbed
the tree again.

There were little birds in the nest.

But they were very small.

“I will wait,” said the cat.

“When the birds are fat,
I shall eat them.”

The birds had plenty to eat.

Soon they grew large and strong.

One morning the cat said,

“To-day I shall have little birds
for my dinner.”

But as she climbed the tree
all the birds flew away.



Five Little Kitty Cats

Five little kitty cats,

Playing on the floor.

One ran away, and then

There were four.

Four little kitty cats,

Climbing a tree.

One tumbled down, and then

There were three.

Three little kitty cats!

What can they do?

One chased a mouse, and then

There were two.

Two little kitty cats,

Having lots of fun,

One went to supper, and then

There was one.

One little kitty cat,

Sitting in the sun.

She saw a dog, and then

There was none.



The Rabbit and the Bees

Some bees lived in an old tree.
All day long the bees made honey
and carried it to the tree.
A bear wanted the honey.
He wanted to climb the tree
and eat it.
But a rabbit lived near by.
And she watched the tree
for the bees.

When the rabbit saw the bear,
he ran and told the bees.

The bees flew at the bear.

They flew in his face,
and they drove him away.

One day the rabbit was
in his house.

A fox came to the door.

“How do you do, Brother Rabbit?”
said the fox.

The rabbit was afraid.

But he did not let the fox
know it.

So he said, “Come in, Brother Fox.
Come in the house and sit down.”

The bees saw the fox
go into the rabbit's house.
So they flew to the door.
One bee flew into the house.

“How are your little ones,
Brother Fox?” said the rabbit.
“My little ones are hungry,”
said the fox.
“They want me to bring them
a good dinner.”

The fox came nearer to the rabbit.
“Buzz, buzz, buzz,” said the bee.
And he flew in the fox's face.
The fox went back to the door.



More bees flew in at the door.

“Brother Rabbit,” said the fox,

“let me see your fine children.”

The fox came nearer to the rabbit.

In flew all the bees.

“Buzz, buzz, buzz,” they said.

They flew about the fox’s head.

And they made him go away.



Something to Draw

Draw a little house.

Draw a door and three windows.

Color the house yellow and brown.

Draw three trees by the house.

Color the trees green.

Put yellow apples on one tree.

Put red apples on one tree.

Put two apples on the ground.

A Game

Can you play this game?

1. Play you are a hen.
Walk like a hen.
Say what the hen says.
2. Play you are a crow.
Say what the crow says.
3. Play you are a duck.
Say what the duck says.
4. Play you are a chick.
Say what the chick says.
5. Play you are a turkey.
Say what the turkey says.



The Bears Visit Goldenhair

One day Goldenhair ran home.

“Oh, Mother,” she cried,

“I have been in the big woods!
I saw where the Three Bears live.
I knocked at the door.
There was no one at home.
I went into the house.

“Guess what I saw!
A big table and three chairs.
One chair was a little chair.
It was Little Bear’s chair.
There were three bowls of porridge.
One bowl was a little bowl.
It was Little Bear’s bowl.
I sat in Little Bear’s chair.
I ate Little Bear’s porridge.
I broke Little Bear’s chair.
And I went to sleep in his bed.
The Three Bears came home
and woke me up.
I jumped out of bed and ran.
I ran all the way home!”

Mother said, "Poor Little Bear!
You ate his food.
You broke his chair.
You went to sleep in his bed."

Goldenhair said, "I am sorry for it."
"Tell the bears," said Mother.
"But how can I?" said Goldenhair.
Then Mother said,

"Give the Three Bears a party."

"Oh, fine!" said Goldenhair.

"I will give them porridge and candy,
and bread with honey.

Little Bear may play with my doll.
It will be fun to have a party."

The Three Bears came to
Goldenhair's home.

Goldenhair's mother met them
at the door.

The bears came into the house.

Father Bear sat on a big, big chair.

Mother Bear sat on a big chair.

Little Bear sat on a little chair.

Goldenhair gave the bears
porridge and bread with honey.

She gave them candy, too.

Three dolls sat at a little table.

Goldenhair gave the dolls food, too.

The bears looked at the dolls.

They went to the dolls' table.



Little Bear ate all the dolls' food.
Mother Bear and Father Bear went
back to their chairs.

Little Bear took a doll in his paws.
He pulled it by one arm.
And the arm came off!
He said, "I like this doll.
I am sorry I broke it."

Goldenhair said, "That is all right!

I broke your chair.

I was sorry I broke it."

Little Bear asked,

"Where is your bed, Goldenhair?

I want to go to sleep."

But Mother Bear said,

"We will go home to sleep."

The bears thanked Goldenhair

for the party.

Then they all went home.

Goldenhair said, "I like

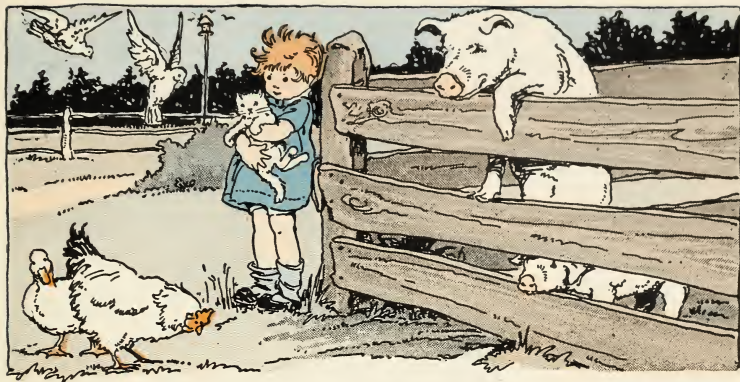
the Three Bears.

I am glad they came

to return my visit."

Read and Do

1. Take your book.
2. Hold it with two hands.
3. Hold it over your head.
4. Lay down your book and open it.
5. Find the picture of Long Tail.
6. Find the story of Long Tail.
7. Stand by your chair as soon
as you find the story.
8. Read all the story to yourself.
9. You should not move your lips
when you read to yourself.
10. After you have read the story,
sit, and read it again.



What We Keep

Father keeps pigs,

Sister keeps a duck.

Baby has a hen

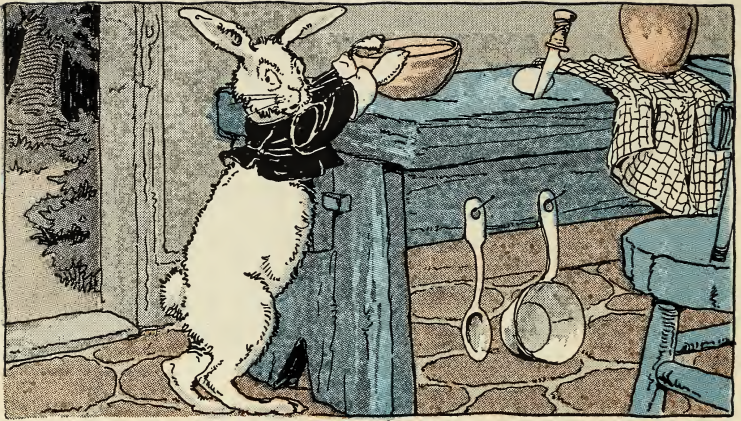
That says, "Cluck, Cluck."

Brother keeps pigeons.

They fly about free.

I keep a kitten,

And Mother keeps me.



The Rabbit and the Honey

One day a rabbit went

to the bear's house.

No one was at home.

So the rabbit went in.

A dish of honey was on the table.

The rabbit wanted to see
what was in the dish.

He put his paws on the dish.

Over went the honey.

The rabbit was covered with it.

There was honey on his ears.

There was honey on his back.

There was honey on his tail.

“What can I do?” said the rabbit.

“If I stay here, the bear
will get me.”

The rabbit ran out of the door.

He went under a tree and rolled.

The leaves stuck to the honey.

There were leaves all over him.

He did not look like a rabbit.

The rabbit rolled and rolled.
But the leaves would not come off.
So he started for his home.
Oh, how funny he looked!

On the way he met a fox.
The fox looked at the rabbit.
Then he ran as if the dogs
were after him.

“Why did that fox run?”
said the rabbit.

Soon he met a mother pig
with her little ones.

The pigs ran this way and that way.
How the rabbit laughed!



Along came a cow.

The cow held up her head.

She held up her tail.

She ran as if the dogs
were after her.

The rabbit met a horse.

The horse jumped and ran.

He jumped the fence and ran away.



Along came a bear.

When the bear saw the rabbit,
she ran into the woods.

Along came a wolf.

The rabbit ran at the wolf.

Away went the wolf.

The rabbit ran after him.

“The old wolf is afraid of me
this time,” said the rabbit.

And he went on to his home.

Never Never

Did you ever see a pony
climb a tree?

Did you ever see a rooster
ride a bee?

Did you ever? No, you never!
For they wouldn't ever try to do it,
Don't you see?

Did you ever see a turkey
catch a fish?

Did you ever see a rooster
wash a dish?

Did you ever? No, you never!
For they wouldn't ever wish to do it,
Don't you see?

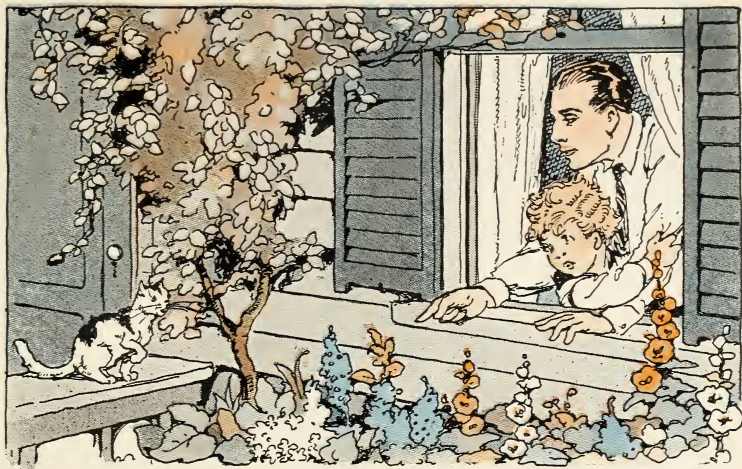
The Boy Who Was Afraid

Once there was a little boy
who was afraid of everything.
He was afraid of the cats.
He was afraid of the dogs.
He was afraid of the cows.
He was afraid of the dark.

One day the boy's mother said,
"What can we do with this boy?
He is afraid of everything."

"I will stay home with him,"
said his father.

"I will help him to be
a brave little boy."



One day a poor little cat
came to the boy's house.
It was very hungry.
It had no home.
The father said to the boy,
"I am sorry for that little cat.
Are you sorry for it?
If you are, you will feed it."

“I am afraid to feed the cat,”

said the little boy.

And he began to cry.

The poor cat mewed and mewed.

Then the boy said,

“You feed the cat, Father.

I will stay with Mother.”

“No,” said the boy’s father.

“You must feed it yourself.”

The poor cat mewed again.

The boy was sorry for it,

and he said,

“You carry me, Father,

and I will feed the cat.”

So the boy carried the milk.
And the father carried the boy.
They fed the cat every morning.
They fed the cat every night.

One day it was very cold.
The cat mewed to come in.
“Poor little cat!” said Father.
“Will you let it in?”
“I am afraid,” said the boy.
“You let it in, Father.”
“No,” said Father.
“You must do it.”

The boy opened the door.
The cat ran into the house.
It lay down and went to sleep.

“You can not hear the cat walk,”
said Father.

“Do you know why?
Come here and look at
her soft paws.”

The boy ran to his father.
And he looked at the cat's paws.

“The cat can see in the dark,”
said Father.

“Look at the cat's eyes.”
The boy saw the cat's eyes
grow large in the dark.
He saw them grow small
in the light.

“The cat knows how to play,”
said the boy’s father.

“Roll your ball on the floor.
Then the cat will play with it.”

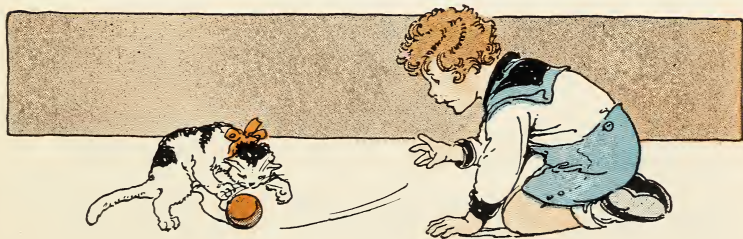
The boy rolled his ball
on the floor.

The cat ran after the ball.

She rolled it around the room.

Then the boy played with the cat.

And he forgot to be afraid.





A poor little dog came
to the boy's house.
It was cold and hungry.
It had no home.
The poor dog cried and cried.
The father said to the boy,
"I am sorry for that little dog.
Are you sorry for it?"

If you are sorry for the dog
you will feed it.”

“I am afraid,” said the boy.

“You feed the dog, Father.

I will stay with my cat.”

“No,” said Father.

“You must feed it yourself.”

Then the boy said,

“You carry me, Father,

and I will feed the dog.”

So the boy carried the food.

And the father carried the boy.

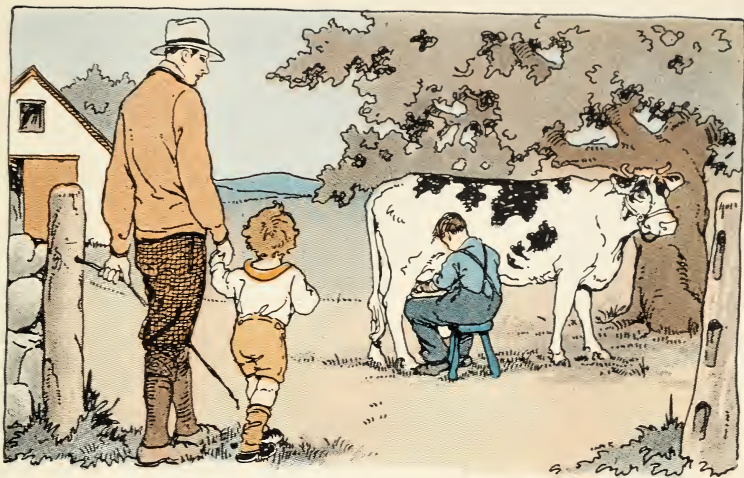
They fed the dog every morning.

They fed the dog every night.

One day it was very cold.
The dog cried to come in.
Father said, "Let him in.
Then he will say, 'Thank you.' "

The boy wanted to see how
a dog could say, "Thank you."
So he opened the door.
The dog ran into the house.
He went to the boy
and put out his paw.

"The dog wants to shake hands,"
said the boy.
So he took the dog's paw.
And he forgot to be afraid.



One morning the boy said,

“Where is my milk?”

“The cow has it,” said his father.

“If you will go with me

we will get your milk.”

So they went to the cow.

She gave warm milk to the boy.

And he forgot to be afraid.

The little boy was afraid
of the dark.

He would not go into
a dark room.

His father told him a story
of a brave boy
who killed a bad giant.

One night the boy said,
“I should like to be brave
and kill a bad giant.”

“You can kill a giant now,”
said Father.

“Play the dark is a giant.
Open the door and run out.

Strike the giant very hard.
Then he will grow small.
Strike him again and again.
Then he will grow so small
you can not see him."

The boy laughed and laughed.
He opened the door wide.
He ran out into the dark.
And he was not afraid again.



Read and Do

Stand by your chairs.

Say the numbers in turn.

Sit, after you say your number.

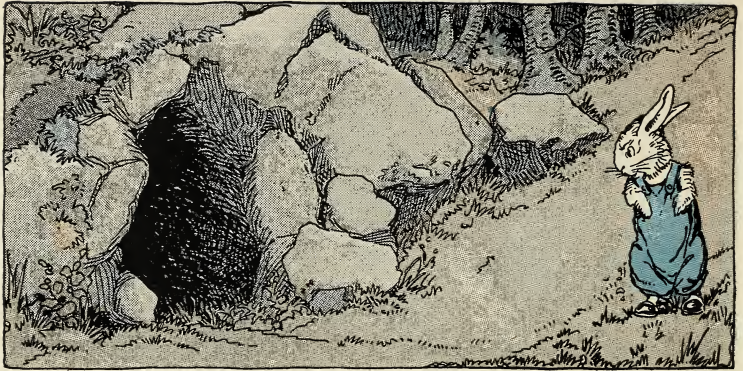
Do what the book says
when your number is called.

1. Find a piece of white paper.
2. Put the paper on the floor.
3. Jump over the paper.
4. Set a chair near the door.
5. Put a piece of paper
under the chair.
6. Run around the room.
7. Go out of the room
and come back again.



My Hobby-Horse

I have a little hobby-horse.
His name is Hobby Gray.
His head is made
 of yellow straw.
His tail is made of hay.
He can gallop, he can trot
All around my play room lot.
Trot fast, my Hobby Gray.



A Dark Place

Little Rabbit's home was
in the bushes near a hill.
One day he ran down the hill.
He came to some rocks.
In the rocks was a dark cave.
Little Rabbit was afraid.
He ran home as fast
as he could go. •

“O Mother!” said the rabbit,
“I saw a dark place in the rocks.
It is very, very dark.
I never saw such a dark place.”

A bird heard what
the rabbit said.

“What is in that dark place?”
asked the bird.

“I do not know,” said the rabbit.

“I was afraid to go in.”

“I am not afraid,” said the bird.

“I will fly over and see it.”

Soon the bird flew back.

“It is a very dark place,”
said the bird.

“A cat may be in it.

I do not want a cat to catch me.
So I did not fly into it.”

Along came a fox.

“Where is that dark place?”
she asked.

“I may like it for a home.

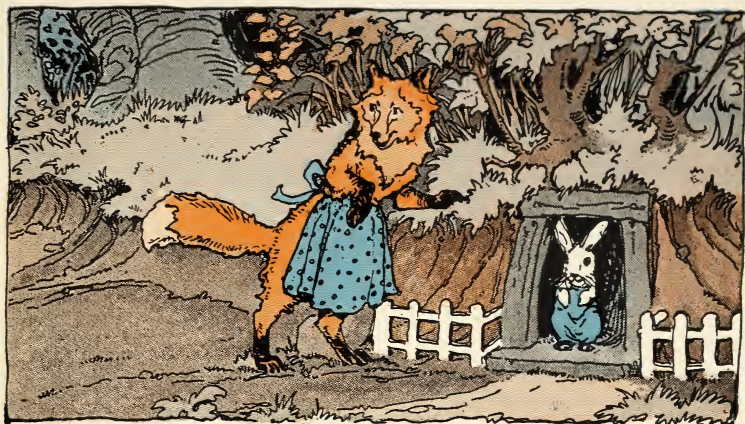
If it is a big cave,

I will move into it.

Caves make good homes for foxes.

My little foxes will like

to live in a cave.”



Soon the fox came running back.
And she said,
“That place is very, very dark.
It is the darkest place I ever saw.
A wolf may be in it.
I am afraid of a wolf.
So I did not go in.
And I shall not move into it.”

The wind came blowing by.

And he said, "What do I hear
about a dark place?

I will visit that dark place.

And I will blow into it.

I have been in many dark places.

And I will go into this one."

The wind blew down the hill.

Soon he came blowing back.

And he said,

"I blew into that dark place.

It is very, very dark.

It must be the darkest place

in the wide, wide world."

The sun came out from
under a cloud.

“What do I hear about
a dark place?” he said.

“I will go and see about it.”

So the sun went to find it.

He looked into a light cave.

There was no dark place.

“That is a fine cave,” he said.

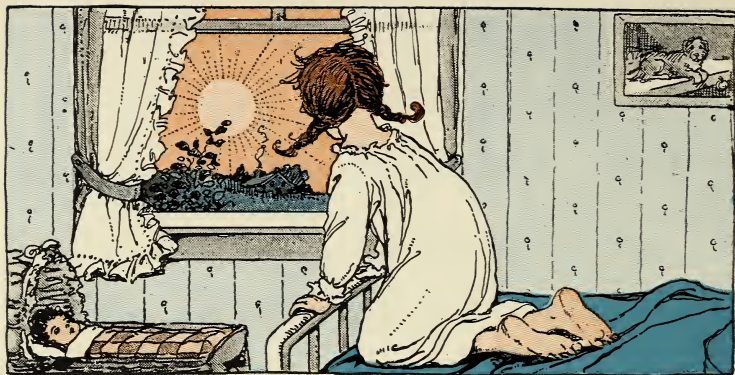
“The rocks are clean.

No cat is in the cave.

And no wolf is there.

It is light in the cave.

I have never found a dark place
in the wide, wide world.”



Child and Sun

Child

Good morning, Sun.

You were up before me.

I saw you go to sleep last night.

You went to bed

long before I did.

How did you get away over there?

Where were you all night?

One cold day the squirrel
was hungry.

The rat had a big ear of corn.

“Will you give me some corn?”
asked the squirrel.

“Yes, if you will trade tails,”
said the rat.

The squirrel was very hungry.

So he traded tails with the rat.

Then he had all the corn he wanted.

But the boys made fun of him.

They threw stones at him.

And they fed the rat

with the beautiful tail.

The Tar Baby

Once Brother Goat lived near
Brother Rabbit.

One day the goat dug a well.
When the goat went for water
he saw rabbit tracks.

“Brother Rabbit has been
to my well,” he said.

“I will catch that rabbit.”

The goat found some wood.

He made a big doll baby.

He put tar all over it.

It was black with tar.

He put the tar baby by the well.

Then he went home.



At night the rabbit came
to the well.

He saw the tar baby.

“How do you do?” said the rabbit.

The tar baby did not say a word.

“Speak to me!” cried the rabbit.

The tar baby did not say a word.

Then the rabbit said,

“If you do not speak to me,
I will hit you.”

The rabbit hit the tar baby.
And his paw stuck to the tar.

“Let me go!” cried the rabbit.

“If you do not let me go,
I will hit you again.”

So he hit the tar baby
with his other paw,
and that paw stuck.

“Let me go!” cried the rabbit.

“Let me go, or I will kick you.”

The tar baby did not say a word.

Bang! The rabbit kicked
the tar baby.

And his foot stuck fast.



“Little one,” said the rabbit,
“Do you see this other foot?
If you do not let me go,
I will kick you again.”

Bang! His other foot stuck fast.

“Let me go or I will hit you
with my head.

I will hit you very hard,”
said the rabbit.

Bang! The rabbit’s head stuck,
and he could not move.

Then the goat came and he said,
“How do you do, Brother Rabbit?
I have you this time.”

“Please let me go, Brother Goat,”
said the rabbit.

“I will not come here again.”

“No, you will not,” said the goat.
And he put some dry wood around
the rabbit and the tar baby.

“Burn me if you want to,
Brother Goat,” said the rabbit.

“But do not put me in the briars.
The briars will put out my eyes.
Please do not throw me
into the briars.”

“If you do not like the briars,”
said the goat,
“then into the briars you go.”

The goat took the rabbit
by the ears.

He pulled him away from
the tar baby.

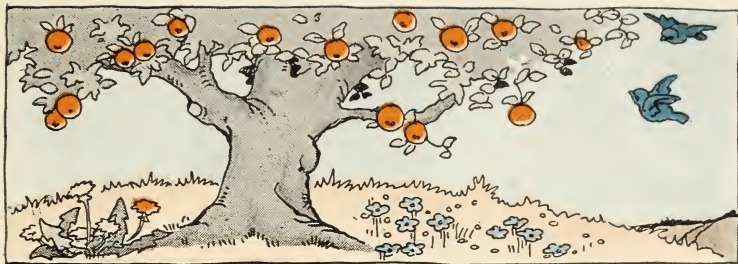
Then he threw him into the briars.

“Brother Goat,” called the rabbit,
“my home is in the briars.”



Read and Do

1. Put your right hand on your head.
2. Lay your two hands on something hard.
3. Put your right hand on something soft.
4. Go and find something old.
5. Shut your eyes and listen.
6. Stand and tell what you heard.
7. Run and open the door wide.
8. Go out and shut the door.
9. Come in, find a book and bring it to the table.
10. Ask some one for a book.
11. Return it and say "Thank you."



Something to Draw

Draw an apple tree.

Put red apples on the tree.

Draw blue birds

flying to the tree.

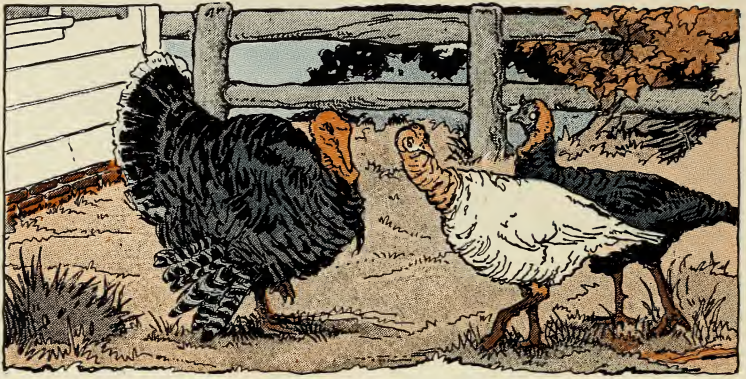
Draw green grass under the tree.

Draw blue flowers

at the right of the tree.

Put yellow flowers

in the green grass.



The Big Turkey

Some turkeys were eating
near a house.

They heard a noise.

They all stopped eating.

“What is that noise?” they said.

“Gobble, gobble! I am afraid,”
said the white turkey.

“So am I,” said another turkey.

“I am not afraid,” said
a big turkey.

“I am not afraid of anything.”

And he walked and he walked.

And he spread his big tail.

“Cluck, cluck,” said a hen.

“If a fox should come,
you would be afraid.”

“Gobble,” said the big turkey.

“I am not afraid of a fox.”

“Quack, quack,” said a duck.

“You would be afraid of a wolf.”

“Gobble,” said the big turkey.

“I am not afraid of a wolf.”

A little girl heard the turkey.

“I will see if you are afraid,”
she said.

“I will see how brave you are.”

So she went into the house
for a big umbrella.

She walked very near the turkeys.

Then she pointed the umbrella
at the big turkey.

And she opened it wide.

Oh, how the turkeys flew!

They flew this way and that way.

Some flew into the tree.

Some flew into the road.

Some flew over the fence.

The big turkey flew up
on the house.

“Cluck, cluck!” said the hens.

“Quack, quack!” said the ducks.

“Cock-a-doodle-doo!” said
the rooster.

“The big turkey is afraid,”
said the little girl.

“He is afraid of an umbrella.”





The Idle Girl

Once there was a little girl
who did not like to work.
She did not want to help
her mother.

“I wish I were a honey bee,”
said the idle girl.

“A bee does not have to work.

Bees visit the flowers.

They eat the honey.

They have a good time all day."

A fairy stood before her.

"I heard your wish," said the fairy.

"Change into a honey bee."

So the little girl was changed
into a bee.

She flew from flower to flower.

She had no work to do.

Soon, other bees came to her.

"You must work," they said.

"You must help us find honey."

The bees made her work all day.



At night the fairy came
to see the honey bee.

“Change me to a bird, good fairy.
I want to be a bird,” she said.

“Bees have no time to play.

Birds do not work.

They fly in the trees

and sing all day.

Please change me to a bird.”

“You may change to a bird,”
said the fairy.

So the little girl was changed
to a bird.

She flew from tree to tree.

She found some little birds
crying in a nest.

They had lost their mother.

They were crying for food.

All day she took care of them.

All day the hungry birds cried,

“More, more, more!”

She could not stop to sing.

She could not stop to eat.

She could not stop to rest.



At night she said to the fairy,
“I do not like to be a bird.
Birds work harder than girls.
I would like to be a cat.
My pussy cat does not work.
She plays and sleeps all day.”

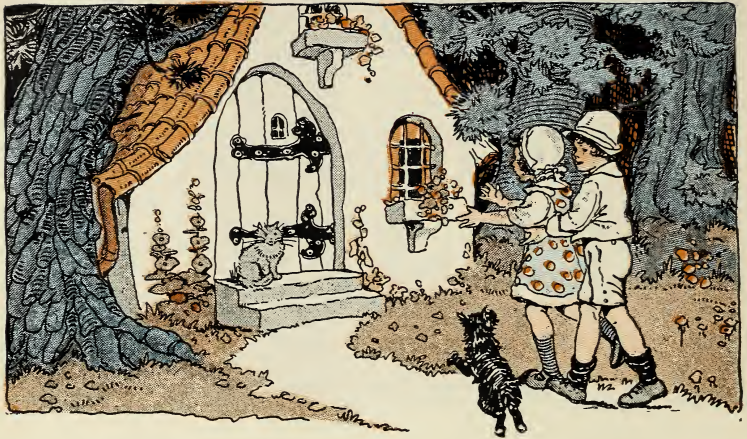
So the fairy changed her
to a pussy cat.

The cat had a fine home.
But she lived with a baby boy.
He would not let her sleep.
He would not let her eat.
He pulled her tail and her ears.

One day the baby went away
with his father and mother.
Then the poor cat had
no food nor water.

At night the fairy came again.
“Have you another wish?” she said.

“Yes, good fairy, I have.
Please let me be a girl again.
I will not be idle any more.
And I will help my mother.”



The Fairy's Gifts

Nan and Peter lived in the woods.
They lived in a little house.

They had no father nor mother.
But there were fairies
in the woods.

And the fairies took care
of the children.

Nan had a white cat.

She loved her cat,

but she wanted a sister.

Peter had a black dog.

He loved his dog,

but he wanted a brother.

One day they sat in their house.

“I wish I had a brother,” said Peter.

“I wish I had a sister,” said Nan.

“You shall have your wishes,”

said a good fairy.

“You are kind to each other.

And you will be kind

to a brother and a sister.”



“Did you hear what the fairy said?” asked Peter.

“Yes, I did,” said Nan.

Just then the door opened.

In came a pair of girl’s shoes.

The shoes ran over the floor.

They stopped by Nan.

The door opened again.

In came a pair of boy's shoes.

The shoes ran over the floor.

They stopped by Peter.

The door opened again.

In came a girl's dress.

It sat down on the girl's shoes.

In came a boy's suit.

It sat down on the boy's shoes.

The children did not say a word.

They waited and waited.

Soon they heard the fairy say:

“One, two, three! one, two, three!

Shut your eyes and listen to me.”

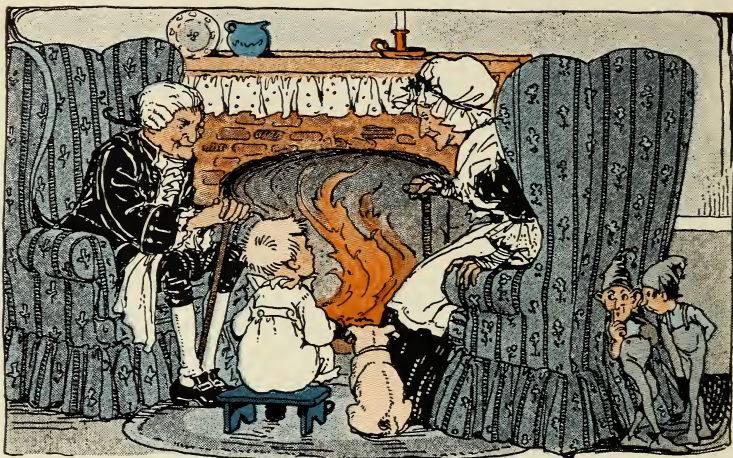


The children shut their eyes.
They waited and waited.
Then they heard the fairy say,

“One, two, three,
One, two, three,
Open your eyes.
What do you see?”

The children opened their eyes.

A girl was in the girl's dress.
A boy was in the boy's suit.
So Nan had a sister
 and Peter had a brother.
The door opened wide.
In came Nan's little white cat.
It lay down by the new sister.
In came Peter's little black dog.
It lay down by the new brother.
So they all lived together.
And they all played together.
They took care of the cat
 and the dog.
And the fairies took care
 of the children.



The Brownies and the Corn

Once a little old man

and a little old woman,

and a little old dog,

and a little wee boy,

lived in a little old house.

There were brownies in the house.

But no one ever saw them.

The old man had
a big field of corn.

The corn leaves were brown.

And the corn was yellow.

The wind blew and blew
in the corn leaves.

And the wind sang,

“Who will pick the yellow corn?”

The man was too old
to pick the corn.

And the woman was too old
to pick the corn.

And the boy was too little
to pick the corn.

So what could they do?

The little old man said,

“Who will pick my corn?”

“We will, we will,” said the crows.

“Let us pick your corn.”

“Never,” said the old man.

“You would eat my corn.

Fly away, black crows.”

“We will, we will,”

said the squirrels.

“Let us pick your corn.”

“No,” said the old man.

“You would keep my corn.

You would hide it away

for your winter food.”

Then the blackbirds came

and they said,

“Let us help you pick your corn.”

“No,” said the old man.

“You would eat my corn.

Fly away, fly away, blackbirds!”

Then the hens and the roosters

came into the field.

And the ducks and the turkeys

came with them.

And they all began to pick the corn.

“Bow, wow!” said the dog.

“Keep out of this field.”

And away they all ran.

When it was dark the brownies
met together and they said,
“There is work for us to-night.

We must pick the corn
for the little old man.

We must pick the corn
for the man and the woman,
and the little wee boy.”

So they sang the brownie song.

“The dark has come,
The sun’s away.

To work! To work!
And then to play.

But every one must hide away
Before the big sun brings the day.”

In the morning the old man
went into his field.

No yellow corn was there.

He could not find even one ear.

“Look in the barn,”
said the little wee boy.

“I heard the brownies
in the night.”

So they went to the barn.

And there lay
the beautiful, yellow corn.





A Home with the Animals

Once upon a time there was

a poor little boy.

He had no home.

There was no one

to take care of him.

He walked along the road.

He was very hungry.

And he cried and cried.

Some cows were eating grass
in a field.

“Moo, moo,” said a cow.

“What is that noise?”

Some bees were finding honey
in the flowers.

“Buzz, buzz,” said a bee.

“What is that noise?”

A squirrel was in a tree.

“Chip, chip,” said the squirrel.

“What do I hear?”

A turkey was in the woods.

“Gobble, gobble,” said the turkey.

“What do I hear?”



Some sheep were eating grass
on a hillside.

“Baa, baa,” said one sheep.

“I hear a child crying.”

Some ducks were swimming
in a pond.

“Quack, quack,” said a duck.

“I hear a child crying.”

A wise old owl sat in a tree.

She saw the poor boy.

She heard his cry.

So she called, "Who, who!

Come to the big tree."

The cows and the sheep came.

The ducks and the turkey came.

The rabbit and the squirrel came.

A beautiful deer came.

"A boy has come to our woods,"

said the old owl.

"He has no home.

Who will take care of him?"

"We will," said all the animals.

“Who, who,” said the owl.

“What will you give him to eat?”

“We will give him milk,”

said the cows.

“I will give him eggs,”

said the turkey.

“I will give him nuts,”

said the squirrel.

“We will give him honey,”

said the bees.

“Let us help,” said the trees.

“Let us help,” said the bushes.

“We will give him food.

We will give him what he likes.”

“Who, who,” said the owl.

“Where can the boy sleep?

Who will give him a bed?”

“He may sleep on my bed,”

said the rabbit.

“My bed is under the bushes.

My bed is made of leaves.

The leaves are soft and dry.”

“Who will keep him warm?”

asked the owl.

“We will,” said the sheep.

“We will keep him warm.

We will lie down by his side.

Our wool is soft and warm.”



“Who will teach the boy?”
asked the wise owl.

“I will,” said the deer.

“I will teach him to run.

He shall run over the ground
as I do.”

“I will,” said the squirrel.

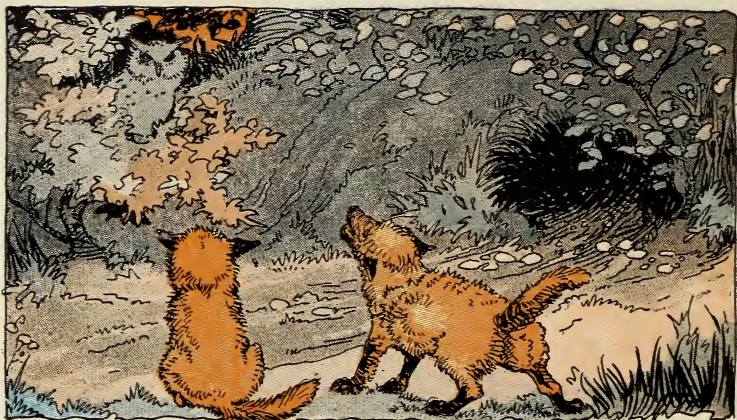
“I will teach him to climb.
He shall climb up the trees
as I do.”

“We will,” said the ducks.

“We will teach him to swim.
He shall ride over the water
as we do.”

“And I,” said the eagle.

“I will teach him to see.
He shall see far away, as I do.
And he shall never be afraid.
He shall not be afraid by day
nor by night.”



“Who will play with the boy?”

asked the wise old owl.

“We will play with the boy,”

said all the little foxes.

“We will play with the boy,”

said all the little lambs.

“We will play with the boy.”

“And I,” said the owl,
“I will watch the boy at night.
My eyes can see in the dark.
I do not sleep in the night.

“I will watch over the boy.
And he shall be safe
while he sleeps.”





A True Story

A dog was running after a fox.
The fox ran fast and the dog
ran fast.

The fox ran into the bushes.
The dog could not see him.
But he could smell his tracks.

The fox knew how to get away
from the dog.

First, he ran back
on his own tracks.

Then he ran around and around.

A stone fence was by the road.

The fox made a big jump
to the top of the fence.

He ran along the fence
as far as he could go.

Then he jumped into a field.

The dog was a long time
finding the tracks again.

He smelled the ground as he ran.

Then he jumped over the fence.



The dog ran in the field
until he found the fox's tracks.
"Bow, wow!" he said. "Bow, wow!"

The fox heard the dog coming
and he went to a brook.
He jumped in and ran along
in the water.

The dog could not smell
tracks in the water.
So he did not catch the fox.

Read and Tell

Find the story of the dark place.

Who went to see it?

What did the bird say about it?

What did the wind do?

Why could not the sun
find the dark place?

Find the story of the poor boy
who had no home.

What did the animals
give him to eat?

What did the animals
teach him to do?

Who watched the boy at night?

The Lost Baby

The baby was lost.

Mother looked for her
in the house.

She looked out of doors.

But she could not find her.

“Who has seen our baby?” she said.

“I saw her after dinner,”
said the baby’s brother.

“She was under the big tree
by the house.”

Mother called to Father.

“Come home,” she said.

“Our baby is lost.”

Father came in to get
the baby's shoes.

Then he called Watch,
the big dog.

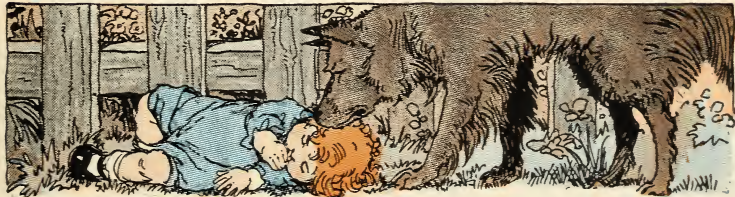
“Watch, go and *find* the baby,”
said Father.

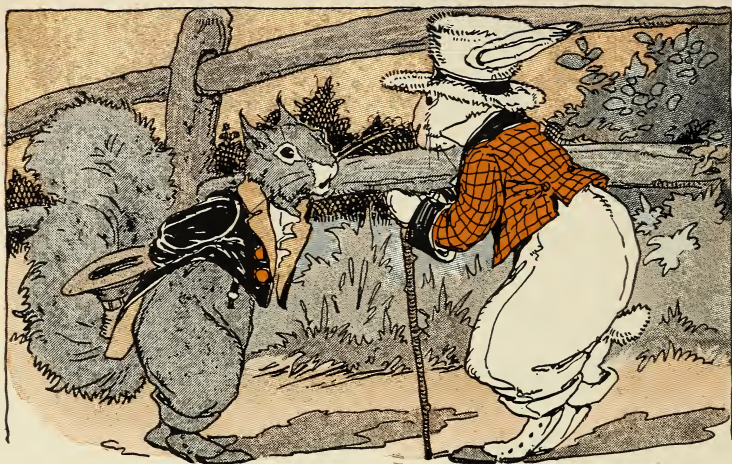
Watch smelled of the shoes.

Then he found the baby's tracks.

The dog ran with his nose
to the ground.

He found the baby asleep
by the fence.





Bob Tail and Bushy Tail

One day Mr. Rabbit met
Mr. Squirrel in the road.

“Mr. Squirrel, Mr. Squirrel,
why don’t you bob your tail?”
asked Mr. Rabbit.

“Your tail is much too long.”

“Look at my tail,” said the rabbit.

“See how short it is!

No one can hold me by my tail.

Let me bob your tail for you,

Mr. Squirrel.

You will look better with a short tail.

Come to my house to-night.

And I will bob it for nothing.”

“Mr. Rabbit, Mr. Rabbit,”

said the squirrel.

“My long tail keeps me warm.

You need not take your time

to bob my tail.

I like my long tail just as it is.

Then the squirrel looked
at the rabbit's ears.

"Mr. Rabbit," he said,
"why don't you cut your ears?
Your ears are much too long.
Look at my ears.
No one can hold me by my ears.
I will cut your ears for you.
Come to my house to-night.
And I will cut them
for nothing."

But Mr. Rabbit did not go
to Mr. Squirrel's house.

So his ears are not cut.

And Mr. Squirrel's tail
is not bobbed.



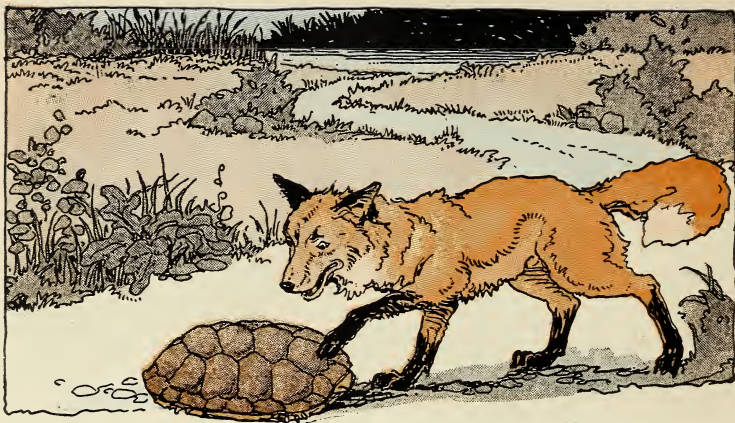
The Squirrels and the Nuts

Big nuts and little nuts,
Black nuts and brown,
On the big tall trees they shake
And then fall down.

Gray Tails and Red Tails
Both at play below.

Gather them and hide them
In secret spots they know.

M. Z. J.



The Fox and the Turtle

A turtle lived by the river.

He liked to lie in the soft mud.

He liked to swim in the water.

One day he came away
from the river.

He walked along the road.

He carried his house on his back.

A fox came running by.

The turtle was afraid of the fox.

So he shut all the doors
of his house.

The fox stopped in the road.

He could not see the turtle's head.

He could not see his legs.

He could not see his tail.

“Now I will have some fun,”
said the fox.

So he knocked on the turtle's
house and called out,

“Mr. Turtle, Mr. Turtle, are you in?

Open your doors.

Put out your head.

Show your head if you have one.
Show your legs if you have any.
Show your tail if you have one.”

But the turtle did not move.

“Mr. Turtle, Mr. Turtle,”

said the fox.

“Have you been in a fire?

Have you lost your tail?

You have no tail.

You are a bob-tailed turtle.

Bob Tail! Bob Tail! Bob Tail!”

The turtle did not like

to be called Bob Tail.

So he put out his tail

from under his shell.

The fox caught the turtle
by the tail.

“Now I have you,” said the fox.

“Oh, oh, oh,” cried the turtle.

“Let me go! Let me go!”

But the fox held fast.

“Do not go to the river, Mr. Fox.

Please do not go near the water.

Take me to the rocks.

Throw me in the fire.

But do not carry me to the river.”

“I will not please that turtle,”

said the fox.

So he ran to the river.

And he said, “I will throw you in.”

“Oh, Mr. Fox,” said the turtle,
“Please do not throw me
into the water.”

“I will not please that turtle,”
said the fox.

So he held him under the water.

“Take me out, Mr. Fox.
Please take me out,”
begged the turtle.

“I will not please that turtle,”
said Mr. Fox again.

So he dropped him down
into the river.

And that was just where
the turtle wanted to go.

Our Book

How many pages have you read
in this book?

Find the story you like best.

Find a page you would
like to read.

Stand where we can see you.

Read so that we can
all hear you.

Find a story that is funny.

Who will tell the story?

Play you are one of the children
in this book.

Show the picture of the child.

Find other pictures you like.

Alphabet

A B C D E F G

a b c d e f g

H I J K L M N O P

h i j k l m n o p

Q R S T U V W

q r s t u v w

X Y Z

x y z

O hear me

I can say my

A B C

Word List

The new words used in the text of the First Reader stories number 297. Checked by Thorndike's Teachers' Word Book, 173 of these are from the 500 words occurring most frequently in English reading matter, and are marked *1a*. There are 53 words marked *1b*, from the second 500 most commonly used words. The letters *a* and *b* placed after the numbers 1 to 5 show the first or second 500 of the thousand so indicated. Other words are not marked. Checked by the Gates Reading Vocabulary for Primary Grades, over 75% of the 297 words are from the first 1,000, 141 being from the first 500 and 85 from the second 500.

The rhymes in this system of reading are designed for line and phrase recognition only, hence the separate words are not listed.

6		10		13	
health	<i>1b</i>	keep	<i>1a</i>	hear	<i>1a</i>
splash	<i>5b</i>	wires	<i>2b</i>	catch	<i>1a</i>
7		electric	<i>3a</i>	15	
washed	<i>1b</i>	11		rat	<i>2b</i>
coat	<i>1b</i>	look	<i>1a</i>	floor	<i>1a</i>
paws	<i>3a</i>	leaves	<i>4</i>	wish	<i>1a</i>
face	<i>1a</i>	burn	<i>1a</i>	time	<i>1a</i>
8		fire	<i>1a</i>	16	
safe	<i>1b</i>	father	<i>1a</i>	meat	<i>1b</i>
cars	<i>1b</i>	12		gray	<i>1b</i>
watch	<i>1a</i>	robin	<i>1a</i>	near	<i>1a</i>
9		food	<i>1a</i>	17	
fun	<i>2a</i>	fly	<i>1a</i>	tell	<i>1a</i>
bark	<i>2a</i>	down	<i>1a</i>	know	<i>1a</i>

18		just	1a	river	1a
point	1a	as	1a	swim	2a
hand	1a	fast	1a		
hold	1a			27	
		23		morning	1a
19		crows	2b	children	1a
something	1a	piece	1a		
		sat	1b	30	
draw	1a	caw	5b	waits	1a
yellow	1b	large	1a	nest	1b
red	1a			eggs	1a
ball	1a	24			
		second	1a	31	
20		third	1a	climbed	2a
more	1a	walked	1a	small	1a
than	1a	bit	1b	when	1a
were	1a			grew	1a
should	1a	25			
visit	1a	dropped	1a	34	
		turned	1a	made	1a
21		around	1a	honey	2a
glad	1a	took	1a	carried	1a
fine	1a	there	1a	bear	1a
				climb	2a
22		26		watched	1a
next	1a	their	1a		

35
told *1b*
drove *1a*
brother *1a*

36
hungry *2a*
bring *1a*
nearer *1a*

37
about *1a*
head *1a*

38
color *1a*
green *1a*
ground *1a*

40
Goldenhair
been
knocked

41
guess *1b*
bowls *2a*
porridge *5*
bed *1a*
woke *4a*

42
poor *1a*
sorry *2a*
party *1b*
candy *2b*
doll *2b*

43
too *1a*

44
pulled *1b*
arm *1a*
off *1a*

45
right *1b*
asked *1a*
thanked *1a*

46
picture *1a*
yourself *2a*
move *1a*
lips *1b*

49
covered *1a*
ears *1a*
rolled *1a*
stuck *3b*

50
started *1a*
funny *3a*
this *1a*
laughed *1a*

51
along *1a*
held *1a*
horse *1a*
fence *1b*

54
once *1a*
everything *1b*
dark *1a*
brave *1a*

55
feed *1a*

56
began *1a*
mewed *4a*
carry *1a*

57
milk *1a*
fed *1a*

every *1a*
cold *1a*
opened *1a*

58
soft *1a*
light *1a*

59
roll *1a*
room *1a*
forgot *2b*

62
thank *1a*
shake *1b*

63
warm *1a*

64
killed *1a*
bad *1a*
giant *2a*
kill *1b*

65
strike *1b*
hard *1a*
wide *1a*

66
numbers *1a*
turn *1a*
paper *1a*

68
place *1a*
bushes *2b*
hill *1a*
rocks *1a*
cave *2a*

69
such *1a*
heard *1a*

71
running *1a*
darkest *1a*
ever *1a*

72
blowing 1a
many 1a
blew 3a
world 1a

73
sun 1a
cloud 1b

74
child 1a
before 1a
last 1b

75
shine 1b
flowers 1a
wake 2a
well 1a

76
beautiful 2a
nuts 2a

threw 2a
77

yes 1b
trade 1b
traded 1b

78
tar 4b
baby 1b
tracks 2a

79
word 1a
speak 1a
hit 2b

80
other 1a
kick 2b
kicked 2b
foot 1a

82
dry 1b

briars 4a
throw 1b

84
shut 1b
listen 1b

85
flying 2a
grass 1b

86
eating 1a
noise 1b
stopped 1a
another 1a

87
anything 1b
spread 1b

88
umbrella 4b
pointed 1a

90		96		102	
idle	<i>1a</i>	gifts	<i>2b</i>	brownies	<i>5b</i>
work	<i>1a</i>	Nan		man	<i>1a</i>
does	<i>1a</i>	Peter	<i>2b</i>	woman	<i>1a</i>
91		fairies	<i>2b</i>	wee	<i>3a</i>
fairy	<i>2b</i>	97		103	
stood	<i>1b</i>	loved	<i>1a</i>	pick	<i>1b</i>
change	<i>1a</i>	sister	<i>1a</i>	104	
changed	<i>1a</i>	kind	<i>1a</i>	hide	<i>1b</i>
93		each	<i>1a</i>	winter	<i>1a</i>
crying	<i>1b</i>	98		105	
care	<i>1a</i>	pair	<i>1b</i>	blackbirds	<i>1a</i>
stop	<i>1a</i>	shoes	<i>1b</i>	107	
rest	<i>1a</i>	99		even	<i>1a</i>
94		dress	<i>1a</i>	barn	<i>2a</i>
harder	<i>1a</i>	suit	<i>1b</i>	109	
pussy	<i>3b</i>	waited	<i>1b</i>	moo	
95		101		finding	<i>1a</i>
any	<i>1a</i>	new	<i>1a</i>	chip	<i>4b</i>
nor	<i>1b</i>	together	<i>1a</i>		

110
hillside *4a*
baa
swimming

111
deer *3a*

113
lie *1b*
side *1a*
wool *2a*

114
teach *1b*

115
eagle *2b*

116
lambs *2a*

117
while *1a*

118
true *1a*
smell *2a*

119
top *1a*
smelled *2a*

120
until *1a*
coming *1a*

124
Bob *3b*
Bushy
Mr. *1b*
don't *1b*
much *1a*

125
short *1a*
better *1a*
need *1a*
nothing *1a*

126
cut *1a*
bobbed *3b*

128
turtle *4b*

129
legs *1b*

130
show *1a*
bob-tailed *1b*
shell *2a*

131
caught *2a*

132
begged *2a*

133
pages *1b*
best *1a*

Rhyming Words

man
than
Nan

hen
then
when

fire
wire

glad
bad
had

fed
bed

old
cold
told

last
fast

nest
rest
best

run
sun
fun

cake
shake

sleep
keep

new
mew
blew
threw

may
say
gray

sit
hit
bit

how
now

all
ball
fall
small

ride
hide
wide
side

look
book
took

Initial Sounds and Phonic Words

^a around	^h held	^p pick
^ă as	hide	^r rocks
^b baby	idle	^s such
bring	ⁱ is	^t tell
^c car	just	time
cave	^k keep	^ŭ until
^d day	kind	^v visit
dry	^l last	^w well
^ē even	lost	
^ě ever	^m much	^{ch} chip
^f fly	meat	^{sh} shine
feed	ⁿ nest	th this
^g glad	nuts	
green	^ō open	^{wh} while

About the Book

Aim. The aim of the First Reader is to continue, by easy steps of progress, the interest in reading awakened by the Primer.

New Material. More than three-fourths of the stories were written for the book and a part of the adapted selections are found in no other readers.

Subject Matter. The subject matter has been determined by observing, both in the schoolroom and in the library, the kind of stories children select for silent reading.

Silent Reading. Tests in silent reading, coupled with silent occupations, appear at intervals throughout the book. Solid pages of reading matter, containing no new words, are also provided for determining the speed and accuracy attained by each pupil.

Eye Span. Many devices for increasing eye span are explained in the Manual. Poems furnish excellent material for training the eye to sweep rapidly across the page. Partially memorized, with the help of the teacher, the child may be led to read the poems of this book with ease and enjoyment. No word drills are advised in the teaching of rhymes, and no words are listed.

Method. The fine balance necessary to secure daily improvement in both accuracy and fluency is recognized, and many suggestions given in the Manual. Such methods are advocated as will awaken a desire to read stories silently.

Phonics. Material suggestive for ear training is found on pages 142 and 143 of the First Reader. The lists are prepared to supplement oral exercises in which the children suggest the words which begin or end with a definite sound or phonogram.

Word List. The new words, introduced in the First Reader, number 311. Checked by Gates' Primary Vocabulary 153 words are from the 500 most common in children's use; 88 are from the second 500, and 47 from the third 500; thus totaling 247 words from the best primary word list yet published.

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